

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the title as follows:

--MICROCIRCUIT CARD WHEREOF THE PERFORMANCES CAN BE
MODIFIED AFTER ~~CUSTOMIZATION~~ PERSONALIZATION--

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the following rewritten Abstract which appears on a separate sheet in the Appendix.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The present invention concerns a microcircuit card whereof the performance can be modified after a step of ~~customization~~ personalization of the card, and a method for configuring this kind of card.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In the remainder of this document, the term "customization" (personalization) will be understood in the sense in which it is routinely used by the person skilled in the microcircuit card art, or as defined by W.Rankl and W.Effing in the document "Smart Card Handbook, Second Edition, Ed. John Wiley & Sons, Ltd." in the following terms:

"The term customization, in its widest sense, means that the data specific to a card or to a person is entered in the card. This data may for example, be a name, an address, and also

includes keys associated with the card. The only thing that is important is that this data is specific to this card."--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 28, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Modifying the clock frequency of a microcircuit card before the step of ~~customization~~ personalization of the card is already known to the person skilled in the art.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 31, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--This kind of process is used in particular during the phases of developing a microcircuit card, during which the cards are tested at different clock frequencies, the clock frequency of the card then being fixed before the end of the ~~customization~~ personalization process.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--However, in the prior art, the performance of the card cannot be modified after the ~~customization~~ personalization of the card.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--It would nevertheless be desirable to be able to modify the performance of a microcircuit card after ~~customization~~ personalization, in particular after it is sold, or more generally after it has been allocated to a user.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--To this end, the invention relates to a microcircuit card including means for receiving a command and means for modifying at least one characteristic of the performance of said card on reception of said command, it being possible for the modification means to be used after a step of ~~customization~~ personalization of said card.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In a complementary manner, the invention relates according to a second aspect to a method of configuring a microcircuit card comprising the following successive steps:

- ~~customization~~ personalization of said card;
- reception of a command; and
- modification of at least one characteristic of the performance of the card on reception of said command.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In the context of the present invention, a characteristic of "performance" of a microcircuit card that can be modified by a configuration method conforming to the present invention must be understood as referring to any hardware or software characteristic pre-existing in the card and not accessible after ~~customization~~ personalization.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 28, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The invention thus enables the performance of a microcircuit card to be enhanced or degraded by sending the command cited above after ~~customization~~ personalization, the card having been already allocated to a user. In contrast, without the present invention, a user requiring to use a card with new performance must necessarily change the microcircuit card.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 34, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Thus, on reception of the appropriate command, the user of a microcircuit card including a physical EEPROM of 64 kbytes but in which the size of the usable area has been limited to 32 kbytes before ~~customization~~ personalization, can use all of the 64 kbytes of the physical memory, without having to change the card.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 34, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--This particular feature thus allows validation of software applications initially provided on the card but invalidated before the end of its ~~customization~~ personalization.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The microcircuit card 100 also comprises a physical memory, for example a memory of EEPROM type, whereof the size of a usable area 110 may be modified after ~~customization~~ personalization.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In the embodiment described here, the characteristics of the performance of the microcircuit card 100 that can be modified after ~~customization~~ personalization are the size of the usable area 110 of the physical memory EEPROM, the frequency of the clock signal, and a software function f used by the processor CPU and the electronic circuit 120.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In a preferred embodiment, the authenticating means comprise cryptographic means for verifying if the command 200 was encrypted with a predetermined authentication key AUTH stored in a portion AUTH of the usable area 110 of the memory EEPROM at the time of ~~customization~~ personalization of the card.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In practice, and in the preferred embodiment described here, the microcircuit card 100 comprises, before ~~customization~~ personalization, a computer file VOID_FILE in the physical memory EEPROM and, when the pair (bit1, bit2) is equal

to (1, 1), the processor CPU destroys this file VOID_FILE, thereby freeing up a part of the physical memory EEPROM.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 32, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In another preferred embodiment, a plurality of files of the same type may be provided before ~~customization~~ personalization of the card, which progressively increases the size of the usable area of the physical memory EEPROM by destroying these files.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The configuration method comprises a first step E10 of ~~customization~~ personalization. This step is known to the person skilled in the art and is not described in detail here.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Be this as it may, this ~~customization~~ personalization step consists in writing data specific to the card or to a user of the card in a memory of the card, for example in the EEPROM.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In the example described here, this ~~customization~~ personalization step comprises in particular writing the value of

the authentication key AUTH in a memory EEPROM of the microcircuit card 100.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--This ~~customization~~ personalization step also includes the creation of the file VOID_FILE and its key 220 in the memory EEPROM.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 28, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The step E20 is followed by a verification step E30 during which the processor CPU authenticates the sender of the command 200. In the embodiment described here, this authentication step is effected by verifying if the command 200 was encrypted with a predetermined authentication key AUTH being stored in a register of the memory EEPROM at the time of ~~customization~~ personalization of the card.--